Nixon's FBI plot is heard

'Resignation' tape played at coverup trial

By MURIEL DOBBIN Washington Bureau of The Sun

Washington-White House tapes in which former President Nixon and H.R. Haldeman, then his chief of staff, were heard plotting to block an. FBI investigation of the Watergate burglary, were played yesterday for the jury in the coverup trial at United States -District Court.

Mr. Nixon resigned a few setting in motion the plan to break-in. conceal Nixon campaign links to the burglary at Democratic headquarters six days earlier.

In the course of this Watergate discussion with Mr. Haldeman, the former President agreed when his chief of staff advised him that "the way to handle this" was to have the deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency call the acting chief of the FBI and say, "Stay the hell out of this."

Mr. Nixon responded, "Play it tough Say ... that they should call the FPI in and say that we wish for the country, don't go any further into this case, period."

Obstruction of justice

Testimony regarding the events surrounding those Nixconversations on-Haldemar. was presented as a cornerstone of the government case by James F. Neal, an assistant prosecutor.

Evidence of White House orders to impede the FBI's Wat- to "taper off" the Watergate presentation. ergate probe by making a scapegoat of the CIA came from Lt. Gen Vernon A. Walters, deputy director of the intelligence agency and L. Patrick Gray 3d, former acting director of the FBI.

Mr. Neal contended that this interference constituted obgate defendants, who include Mr. Haldeman, John D. Ehr-

Approved For Release 2005/07/6974CIA-RDP91-00901R000700090015-9

general, Robert C. Mardian, Watergate burglars. former assistant attorney general, and Kenneth W. Par-eral Walters said. kinso, former Nixon campaign lawyer.

"These are the obstructive words," the leader of the prosecution team declared.

According to Mr. Neal, this were the very words that obstructed the FBI investigation for two weeks in this case."

General Walters testified that he was summoned to the White House at noon, June 23, 1972-shortly after the discussion between Mr. Nixon and Mr. Haldeman in which the days after releasing tran-then-President approved using tapes, which portrayed him as inquiry into the Watergate

Asked for CIA connection

According to General Walters, Mr. Haldeman said the Watergate bugging case was "making a lot of noise," that the Democrats were trying to "maximize it" and that the investigation was "leading to a lot of important people and might get worse."

The witness said that Mr. CIA connection was in the Watergate matter. When told by General Walters that none existed, the White House chief of staff said, "It is the Presldent's wish that you go to Gray and express to him that

Present at that meeting, the witness said, were Richard M. Helms, director of the CIA, and defendant Ehrlichman.

convey a request to Mr. Gray "laundered money" investigaoperations were involved.

The Haldeman request, the witness said, was followed by meetings with John W. Dean

House domestic adviser, John counsel, who proposed that the fendant in which he appeared N. Mitchell, former attorney CIA pay bail and bond for the to have prior knowledge of the

The witness said he finally told Mr. Gray he would resign if he were pressured further to link the CIA with the Watergate scandal.

Mr. Gray substantially corroborated General Walter's teswas the chain of evidence that timony. The former FBI acting showed "the clear agency chief-now under investigation from Haldeman to the former by the special prosecutor's of-President of the United States | fice regarding his knowledge of to Ehrlichman to Walters to wiretaps on newsmen and Gray. This is obstruction. They presidential personnel—admitted that, under White House rights of Daniel Ellsberg's psypressure, he had "held off" temporarily on the Watergate leaked the Pentagon papers. investigation.

"Would-be protectors"

The witness told of a conversation with General Walters at which both had agreed that the President should be "protected White House failure to keep its scripts of the June 23, 1972 the CIA to head off the FBI against his would-be protectapes, which portraved him as inquiry into the Watergate tors." Mr. Gray added that General Walters had said he was not going to be "kicked

around by these White House kids any more."

Mr. Grav also testified that from the White House safe of was "being taken care of." E. Howard Hunt, Jr., convicted Watergate burglar, He later lied about his action to Henry E. Petersen, the assis-Haldeman then asked what the tant attorney general then in charge of the Watergate inquiry, but admitted his lie to Mr. Petersen a day later, Mr. Gray added.

The June 23 tapes played yesterday marked the first of 26 additional White House repursuit of this investigation cordings to be introduced into might get into CIA opera- evidence at the trial, which now is in its seventh week.

The importance attached by both prosecution and defense to these tapes was indicated by the efforts of the government General Walters said he did to present the material, and thuse of the defense to prevent

John J. Wilson, attorney for tion in Mexico, although there Mr. Haldeman, won a conceswas no indication that any CIA sion when Judge John J. Sirica agreed to mark as "unintelli-

lichman, former chief White 3d, then presidential legal gible" a comment by the deso-called "Gemstone" political "I told him, 'No way'," Gen-intelligence plan that led to the Watergate burglary.

> The tapes have been termed "the heart of Watergate" by Mr. Neal, and defense lawyers have emphasized their concern about the impact such recordings might have on the jury.

The Walters-Gray testimony was followed by that of Joan Hall, former secretary to Charles W. Colson, ex-White House special counsel, now in jail for violating the civil chiatrist. Dr. Ellsberg had

Mrs. Hall testified about a telephone call from Dorothy Hunt, wife of the Watergate burglar, in August, 1972, in which Mrs. Hunt stressed the commitments to the men caught breaking into Democratic headquarters.

The witness said she considered the call "desperate" and a "semi-threat." Colson, she said, refused to receive the he had destroyed, at the re-information and she transmitquest of Dean, material taken ted it to Dean, who told her it

struction of justice—the charge pproved For Release 2005/07/01 : CIA-RDP91-00901R000700090015-9 leveled against all five Water

By JOSEPH VOLZ and JEFFREY ANTEVIL

Washington, Nov. 11 (News Bureau)—Prosecutor James F. Neal charged today that CIA Deputy Director Vernon Walters "was acting as an agent" of former President Nixon, H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman when Walters told the FBI on June 23, 1972, to halt its investigation of a critical phase of the Watergate break-in.

Neal said the instructions passed on by Walters to L. Patrick Gray 3d, then acting director of the federal bureau of investigation, were the heart of the Watergate coverup for about two weeks after the June 17, 1972, break-in at Democratic National Headquarters. Haldeman, Enrilichman and three others are

June 23, six days after the breakin. In the tapes, Nixon and Haldeman discussed a plan to have Walters tell Gray that the FBI probs could expose covert Central Intelligence Agency operations.

Walters, an Army lieutenant

have Gray call off an FBI investigation of the laundering of Mixon campaign money through 1972, conversations last Aug. 5, Mexican banks. Walters said the instructions by Haldeman, at a meeting attended by Ehrlichman, House Judiciary Committee imon trial for the coverup.

Neal's charge came as the CIA since May 1972, testified that CIA chief, then Richard prosecutors reviewed; three today that 90 minutes after the Helmschadstold the Nixon aides

there were no covert operations that could be compromised by the FBF activites.

Walters said he had immediately gone to Gray and told him of Haldeman's order. It was not until tow weeks later, July 6, that he finally gold Gray there were no such covert operations.

Gray, whose nomination as permanent FBI chief was aborted last year because of disclosures about his role in the coverup, also testified about the attempt to block the FBI investigation. He said he had not been offered immunity from prosecution, would not accept immunity if it were offered, and that he still faced possible charged in the coverup.

coverup.
Gray confessed under defense cross-examination that he had lied to Assistant Attorne yGeneral Henry E. Petersen, who was heading the Watergate probe, when he denied that he had received files-from Watergate burglar E. Howard Hunt's White House safe. Gray testified. "I House safe. Gray testified, "I said 'B.S., Henry, that's not true."

But Gray, a retired Navy cap-tain, said that later that night, tain, said that later that highly "I was warm and hot all over, edmost like a women in menopause, because I had told a lie."

As a murmur rippled through the courtroom, Gray said that the

nexr day he had confessed to Petersen that he had not only received the files but had burned them with his Christmas trash in 1972.

Gray also testified that he had crucial tapes of conversations on Nixon-Haldeman meeting Halde- sel John W. Dean 3d to raw FBI man had summoned him to the reports describing virtually ev-white House and told him to dound and the direction its probe would take in the weeks ahead.

Nixon published the June 23, peachment hearings, and even his own attorneys. That admission, along with the information in the tapes, led to his resignation four days later.

"Don't Go Any Further"

In the conversations, which were played for the jury today, Nixon and Haldeman discussed the fact that money found on the burglars could be traced back through Mexican banks to the Nixon eeelection committee.
Nixon then approved Haldeman's
proposal "to have Walters call Pay Gray and just say, 'Stay the hell out of this."

Referring to Helms and Walters, Nixon told Haldeman: "You call them in. . . . Play it tough."

Later, the President added. "when you get these people in, say: 'Look, the problem is that this thing will open the whole Bay of Pigs thing . . . And that they should call the FBI in and say that we wish for the country, don't go any further into this case, period!"

At a meeting that afternoon,

Haldeman reported to Nixon that Walters and Helms had been summoned to the White House and given their instructions.

Trial nears implicating Nixon tapes

By Louise Sweeney Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Washington

Former President Richard M. Nixon's voice rang out on tape at the Watergate cover-up trial Monday admitting that his concern was "political" in covering up the Watergate break-in six days previously, and ordering how to put investigators off that scent.

"I don't want them [FBI investigators] to get any ideas we're doing it because our concern is political," says Mr. Nixon to former White House Chief of Staff H. R. Haldeman, now a defendant in this trial. Mr. Haldeman says, "Right."

The President says, "And at the same time, I wouldn't tell them it is not political." "Right," repeats Mr. Haldeman.

The President then says, "I would just say, 'look, it's because of the Hunt involvement, just say (unintelligible, with noise) sort of things, the whole cover [he emphasizes the word 'cover'] is basically this...."

The conversation is one of three from June 23, 1972, which were played at the trial Monday as prosecution evidence.

Birdsongs, typewriter clacks, and what sounds on one tape like the ticking of a superspeed metronome are heard along with the voices of Mr.

Nixon and Mr. Haldeman.

This is the first public playing of the controversial "resignation tapes" which indicated Mr. Nixon's knowledge of the specifics of the Watergate break-in just days after it happened but nearly a year before he publicity admitted any knowledge of it.

Transcripts differed

· Immediately after the incriminating tapes were released by him under Supreme Court order, Mr. Nixon resigned.

Portions of the tapes marked unintelligible or simply missing in the presidential transcripts submitted at that time are substantially different on hearing and in the prosecution's transcripts issued today. The dialogue about the politics of the Watergate cover-up is an example.

Approved For Release 2005/07/01 : CIA-RDP91-00901R000700090015-9

Haldeman are heard in a sequence of three meetings tracing their plan to turn off the FBI investigation of the break-in by insisting that it involved the CIA and would shatter the CIA cover on Mexican involvement and open the involvement of E. Howard-Hunt in the Bay of Pigs invasion.

The game plan was to pressure then CIA Deputy Director General Vernon A. Walters into leaning on Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray III to end the FBI's investigation.

But Mr. Walters testified Monday he resisted that plan, even after meeting with Mr. Haldeman and defendant John D. Ehrlichman, then domestic affairs chief, as well as a series of increasingly pressuring meetings with the presidential counsel John W. Dean III following the June 23 taped discussion.

Mr. Walters testified he finally ation.

On the tapes the President and Mr. refused to have the CIA accept the responsibility for bail and salaries for the Watergate burglars because the CIA is "apolitical," it would "involve the agency where it is not involved". and "it would not serve the President."

> Mr. Walters is expected to be recalled for cross-examination next week.

Mistrial denied

Before the tapes were played, U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica also read a statement denying defendant John N. Mitchell's motion for a mistrial,

He also denied defendant Kenneth W. Parkinson's motion for severance on the basis of the appearance of a bomb-shell blackmail memo to Mr. Parkinson from Watergate con-spirator E. Howard Hunt, dated a week after the 1972 presidential elec-

By LESLEY OELSNER

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11-Parts of the three White louse tape recordings that led to Richard M. Nixon's resignation from the Presidency were played today to the jury n the Watergate cover-up man and Ehrlichman-to Wal-

Out of the presence of the mry but in open court, the thief prosecutor, James F. Neal, aid that the tapes and the ther evidence today proved a direct agency" in which Mr. lixon's "agents" obstructed ustice at Mr. Nixon's order.

The tapes, made public last aug. 5, contain Mr. Nixon's conversations with H.R. Haldeman, then his chief of staff and now one of the five defendants pends on his health. n the trial, on June 23, 1972, ix days after the break-in at Democratic headquarters in the Natergate complex.

Tapes Often Faint

Ar. Haldeman to direct officials of the Central Intelligence Agency to tell the head of the ederal Bureau of Investigation -o limit its inquiry into the vixon wanted the curtailment or political reasons rather han concern over national security.

The tapes, often faint and ment that Mr. Nixon "deceived" ometimes difficult to hear, and "misled" Mr. Ehrlichman. vere played in conjunction with estimony by Lieut. Gen. Veron A. Walters, Deputy Director f Central Intelligence, and -. Patrick Gray 3d, then acting peachment proceedings.

ead of the F. B. I.

bout getting the directive from Tr. Haldeman, in the presence f John D. Ehrlichman, then the hief White House adviser on omestic matters and now anther of the defendants, and eassing it on to Mr. Gray; Mr. ∃ray told of receiving it.

When a defense lawyer ob-acted to the prosecution's line of questioning, Mr. Neal replied:
"There's no other way you

an show the agency-from the ormer President of the United states to Haldeman and Ehr. he called Mr. Dean, who reichman to Waters to Gray-

noint: "We have a direct ageny from the President to Haldeman to Ehrlichman-to Halde-

Special to The New York Times

ters to Gray.'

After a recess, the questioning was allowed to proceed the way Mr. Neal wished.

The Ford Pardon

Mr. Nixon, who was named an unindicted alleged co-conspirator in the case last March, was pardoned by President Ford on Sept. 8 for any Federal crimes he may have committed while in office. The former President has been subpoenaed by the prosecution and defense but whether he testifies de-

The other defendants in the case are John N. Mitchell, the former Attorney General and director of the Nixon re-election campaign; Robert C. Mardian, a former Assistant Attor-They show Mr. Nixon telling ney General and political coordinator for the re-election committee, and Kenneth Wells Parkinson, an attorney hired by the committee after the break-

Mr. Haldeman and Mr. Ehroreak-in. They show that Mr. lichman have made clear that they will attempt to shift the blame for Watergate to Mr Nixon. Mr. Ehrlichman's chief lawyer, William S. Frates, told the jury in his opening state-

> The testimony by General Walters and Mr. Gray, like the tapes, was laregly a repetition of what came out in the Senate Watergate hearings and the im-

General Walters testified day, began at 9:30 A.M. on June 21, 1972, when Mr. Ehrlichman spoke to Mr. Gray on

the telephone.

Mr. Ehrlichman, according to Mr. Gray, said that John W. Dean 3d, then a White House counsel who is now in a Federal prison, was going to conduct a Watergate inquiry for the White House, Mr. Gray, according to the testimony, was to deal directly with Mr. Dean, who was expecting a call from

Mr. Gray told the jury that quested a meting, held at 11:30 and that is the obstruction that morning. Mr. Dean, according fustice]."

"It's the act itself," he added.

"It's the act itself," he added.

Watergate affair was "extreme-Mr. Neal then repeated his ly sensitive" and that he would sit in on F.B.I. interviews with White House staffmen.

Mr. Dean at a later meeting of the various "theories" the F.B.I. was considering, including one that the C.I.A. might be involved.

C.I.A. Involvement

The C.I.A. theory, according to Mr. Gray, was considered because of the C.I.A. involve- Mr ment of some of the Watergate Pre burglars and because the C.I.A. Walters inform Mr. Gray that was known to have complex continued investigation of camfinancial arrangements.

few days, according to the test undercover timony, was an attempt to keep Mexico. the authorities from connecting Then, as both Mr. Gray and the break-in with the Nixon General Walters testified, the re-election, committee.

Office. The tape of that meeting, particularly difficult to

has caused much controversy officials, agreed that Mr. Nixon at the trial. Mr. Haldeman says should be told, and Mr. Gray a word that the prosecution ordered his inquiry into the contends is "Gemstone," the checks to be resumed, according to the illegal intelligence. name of the illegal intelligencegathering operation that led to ing to the testimony.

transcript bearing the notation mony today. At a bench con-"unintelligible" instead of ference Mr. Neal said that he Gemstone.

Nixon conversation an hour and a half later.

A Slight Delay

There was a slight delay when Judge John J. Sirica no. Dean and with the apparent acticed that one of the jurors, quiesence of Mr. Ehrlichman. Mrs. Marjorie Milbourne, did

Nixon was more specific about Watergate investigation. the directive to be given to the

C.I.A. officials. Mr. Haldeman, Mr. Nixon said, should tell the C.I.A. officials "this is all involved in the and it's going to make the cutor asked. F.B.I. and C.I.A. look bad, and Mr. Dean. it's likely to blow the whole, uh, Bay of Pigs thing which we think would be very unfortu- Mr. Dean about Watergate? nate for the C.I.A. and for the country at this time, and for American foreign policy, and he just better tough it and lay it all defense counsels, cross-exjamined Mr. Gray briefly

contribution checks paign What happened in the next might lead to C.I.A. assets and operations

Deputy Director of the C.I.A. On June 23, Mr. Nixon and went to the acting head of the Mr. Haldeman met in the Oval F.B.I.

Gray-Walters Meeting

Ing, particularly difficult to hear, shows Mr. Haldeman talking to Mr. Nixon. He says:

"The way to handle this now is for us to have Walters call Pat Gray and just say, 'Stay the hell out of this. This is, ah, business here we don't want, you to go any further on it."

Then came the sequence that the pressure from White House. Then came the sequence that the pressure from White House

the break-in, and that Mr. Haldeman's lawyers contend is something like "convention" or "dovestome."

At the Senate Watergate hearings, Mr. Gray said that he had warned Mr. Nixon on July 6, "People on your staff are trying to mortally wound you behest, the jury was given a transcript bearing the notation "F.B.I." At the Senate Watergate

ference, Mr. Neal said that he was about to question Mr. Grav leased in August contains about the statement. Mr. Frates the prosecutors then put on a second tape of a Haldeman-Nixon conversation

questioning by Mr. Neal, Mr. Gray repeated his earlier testimony about destroying documents at the behest of Mr.

On cross-examination, Mr. mrs. Marjone innoces on.

"You have her earphones on.

"You have to listen," he told fect of that testimony, getting mr. Gray to concede that Mr.

Mrs. Marjone innoces on.

"You have to listen," he told fect of that testimony, getting mr. Gray to concede that Mr. She put the earset back on Ehrlichman had not been the In this conversation, Mr. one to tell Mr. Gray to halt the

> Mr. Neal on redirect then sought to limit the effect of this concession.

Who had told Mr. Gray to Cuban thing, that it's a fiasco, limit the inquiry? The prose-

> Mr. Dean, the witness replied, Who had told him to talk to

Mr. Ehrlichman, he replied.

Approved For Release 2005/07/01: CIA-RDP91-00901R00670009015-Glundley

H. Yeah, that's the basis asked whether Mr. Gray had:

12 NOV 1974

Approved For Release 2005/07/0/10 CIA-RDP91-00901R000700090015-9 lapes Link Nixon

By Barry Kalb Star-News Staff Writer

The Watergate special prosecutors have presented evidence that former President Richard M. Nixon was involved in the early stages of the Watergate cover-up - three tapes, and an interpretation of their substance.

The conversations of June 23, 1972 were not new - transcripts were released by the White House four days before Nixon resigned - although the prosecutor's transcripts did provide some nuances missing from Nixon's own version.

The transcripts also show clearly that Nixon was weighing when he sent H. R. Haldeman to have the CIA interfere with the FBI's Watergate investigation, the potential political ramifications of the Watergate affair.

"I don't want them (CIA officials) to get any ideas we're doing it because our concern is political," Nixon told Haldeman in tones that made clear his concern was precisely that.

THE PROSECUTORS' interpretation of these taped conversations and the circumstances surrounding them, was delivered with the jury out of the room by Associate Special Prosecutor James F. Neal.

Neal first noted the chain of events that day: Nixon tells Haldeman to have the CIA interfere with the FBI's investigation; Haldman, with Nixon aide John west fund-raiser, Kenneh thing up again' . . . They D. Ehrlichman present, passes the mes-H. Dahlberg, from should call the FBI in and were again meeting, this sage to CIA Director Richard Helms industrialist Dwayne O. An-say that we wish for the time in Nixon's Executive and Deputy Director Vernon A. Walters; Walters meets with Acting FBI ing \$89,000, were what was ther into this case, period." Director L. Patrick Gray III; Gray puts left of \$100,000 in cash cona temporary hold on an important aspect of the FBI's investigation.

"These are the obstructive mittee.

no CIA operation in danger John W. Dean III.

'Walters had a clearinvestigation

President of the United jeopardize States . . . Nixon to Halde- operations in Me man to Walters to Gray," which is the mess: Neal said. "This is the act it- ultimately got to Gr

THE TAPES begin with a Haldeman at one point CIA."
meeting starting 10:04 a.m. told Nixon, in an apparent Walters said Helms told that day, between Nixon and reference to Walters, "Ah, Haldeman he had spoken and . . . their investigation CIA. is now leading into some productive areas . . . it goes NIXON want it to go.'

Bernard L. Barker.

keep on going you're going interview both Ogarrio and get any ideas we're doing it to uncover a CIA opera- Dahlberg. At a meeting or because our concern is potion."

June 22, Gray testified yes. litical." Neal said that events have terday, he explained this to "At the same time," Nixon since proved that there was then White House Counse added, "I wouldn't tell them

Walters was acting - Neal June 23 conversation did of the Hunt involvement said fine, and uh, Walters indicated it was unwittingly Nixon and Haldeman specif-. - as Nixon's own agent inically say they would have Nixon at this point knew, a call to Gray.'

Walters tell Gray the FBI's the tapes indicate, that E. , might Howard Hunt Jr. and other the meeting with Walters, he

cover though they did around such an idea.

Haldeman. Haldeman re-he'll call him (Gray) in and with Gray the day before, ported on the progress of the say, 'We've got the signal "and had told him that the FBI's investigation into the from across the river (the agency was not involved."

Watergate break-in six days white House) to, to put the However, Walters said, earlier, and told him, "... hold on this.' And that will Haldeman persisted. We're back to the — in the, fit rather well because the "Nevertheless, it has been the meablem and because the "Nevertheless, it has been the meablem and because the "Nevertheless, it has been the meablem and because the "Nevertheless, it has been the meablem and because the "Nevertheless, it has been the meablem and because the "Nevertheless". the problem area because FBI agents who are working decided that Gen. Walters the FBI is not under control, the case, at this point, feel will go" to Gray with the because Gray doesn't exact that's what it is - this (the message. Ehrlichman's only ly know how to control them, Watergate bugging) is part in the conversation,

in some directions we don't Haldeman: "When you get Haldeman then went on to you get these people in, say, him at 2:30 p.m. They met at provide details about a Look, the whole problem is Gray's office, Walters, said, situation on which Nixon that this will open the whole and Walters said he had just clearly already had some . . . Bay of Pigs thing, and come from the White House information by June 23-a the president just feels that, and he was ordered to tell total of five checks which ah' - don't, don't lie to them Gray that the FBI "could were traced both to Nixon's to the extent to say there is uncover some covert CIA fund-raising committee and no involvement, but just say assets or activities (in Mexito the bank account of one of this is sort of a comedy of co)." the Watergate burglars, errors, bizarre, without geternard L. Barker. ting into it —'the President One check was for \$25,000, believes that it is going to dreas. The other four, total-country, don't go any fur-

A meeting among Walters, tributions by Texas donors A meeting among Walters, which was "laundered" Helms, Haldeman and Ehr-Referring to the Walters- through a Mexican bank and lichman was arranged for Referring, Neal said, then sent to the Nixon com- 1:30 p.m. that day. In a discussion with Nixon minutes words, this is the obstruction The Mexican checks were before the meeting, Haldemow...'You're to taper off cashed by a banker there, man again went over what this investigation, you've got Manuel Ogarrio, and Gray he would say, and Nixon this investigation, you've got was about to have his agents said, "I don't want them to your five suspects, if you was about to have his agents and get any ideas we're doing to the property of the property of

it is not political . . . I would of being uncovered, and that Nowhere during the first just say, 'Look, it's because

Walters said, was to offer Walters the use of a White LATER told House telephone.

Walters said he called in these people . . . when Gray and arranged to meet,

AT VIRTUALLY the same time Gray and Walters were collected by Nixon's Mid-open the whole Bay of Pigs meeting at FBI headquarters, Haldeman and Nixon Office Building office.

> Haldeman opened his report on his meeting with Helms and Walters by saying, "Well, it's no problem

Haldeman can be made out saying, "... So at that, point Helms's kind of got the picture . . . He, he said, We'll be very happy to be helpful to, ah, you know, and we'll handle everything you want. I would like to know the reason for being helpful." And it may have appeared when he wasn't gonna get it explicity but was gonna get it through generality. So he . . . Walters is gonna makei

Gray testified that after!

Trui Toli Of Nixon's Cover-Up Bid

By George Lardner Jr. William Tour Post Staff Writing

The curves of the Waters, te conspicted trial were told in the to cover up the scandar wellthe he was the Central in a deganda I., nicy.

L. Poet ex Gray III, focuacting director of the FBI. said no ield up a cructar as pect of the Watergate in astr gation for nearly two weeks at the CiA's request, but the ... fort Change falled when he de manded that the request be put in writing.

Gray said that CIA Deputy Director Version W. Waiters balked and declared that he would rather resign.

"He (Walters) said, I'm not going to let those kids at the White H o u s e kick are around," Gray testilied.

Watergate prosecutors, horeever, played segments of threetape-recorded meetings on June 23, 1972, that showed Mr. Nixon himself personally are rected the effort.

Chief trial prosecutor James F. Neal said the evidence showed a clear line of responsibility directly implicating the former President in an obstruction of justice.

The tapes, all involving conversations between Mr. Nixon and former White House chief.

of staff H. R. (Bob) Haldeman. first approving the attempt to cal espionage. muzzle the FBI's Watergate investigation and then being assured later the same day ble word ending in "stone." that the arrangements had The prosecution transe: been made.

time, the recordings, which John J. Sirica acceded to the forced the President's resigna protests of flaldeman's Lawtion this summer, also showed yers and ordered the jurors' Mr. Nixon was completely un-cooles changed so that it simruffled on hearing details be ply read "unintelligible," hind the breakin. At times, he Told that the FBI was inceeven anticipated what Halde-convinced it is a CIA thing?

told Haldeman on the morning volved? but approved Halife-Director Dichard Heims and m., Deputy Director

go to a.r. . Che he while Ziouse. Mr. Nixon said he. wanted the FBI told in no un-

certain terms: "Don'f co anv further into this care, period: According to Common This

House Coursel donn with D III, the FBI's Gray had just told him the previous evenuar that its agents were hot on the trail of five checks for -Novem eampaign—four f 1 Mexican businessman Manuel Ozarrio and one from Nizon fund roiser Kenneth Dahlbeer of Minnesota-which had been

tail yesterday now Preside it cashed by Watergate burgiar Nixon and his top aides tried "Bernard Barker in Miami. Gray also told Dean that the FBI was inclined to thick Wateriate busging had "a C1A operation."

In his testimony last mouth, Dean said he quickly report to all this to former Appropries General John N. Mitchell and to Haldeman.

Haldeman met with Med Nixon the next day, from 1994 a.m. to 11:39 a.m., in the Oval Office, telling the President that "we're back ... in the problem area because the FBI is not under control."

The White House chief of staff went on to recommend "that the way to handle this now is for us to have Walters call Pat Gray and just sup. 'stay the hell out of this . . . this is the CIA."

Haldeman added that both he and Ehrlichman planned to call in the ClA officials and enlist their help. Haldenian also told Mr. Nixon that Mitzhell apparently knew of the plans for the Watergate break. in and bugging, which had been discovered on June 17 at Democratic National Committee headquarters here. At one point, the White House a le made what seemed to be a reference to "Genistone," the seshowed the former President cret code word for the politi-

> On the recording, the word sounded like "Dovestone." was, in any event, a two-syrla-

carried it as "Gemstone." but Played publicly for the first U.S. District Court Judge

man was about to tell him. Mr. Nixon said that he hims in "Play it tough," Mr. Nixon was "not going to get that .e-

"Good Good c Nixon said in a phi White House tran-Haied in August or tributed to Haldema tonch. That's the play it and that's th are Loing to play it.

Apparently alludi NECTV broadcast before on the Cuban in the burglacy, the said he had noticed t daily news summ added: "I, of course was a bunch of crap he said it would be

have investigators good one "on this wild-hair thing" any-

When you get the e people in," Mr. Nixon told Haldeman of the upcoming meeting with the Civ offclab, "say: 'Look, the problem is that this will open the whole, the whole Bay of Pigs thing"... Don't lie to them to the extent to say there is no involvement, but just say ... The President believes that it is going to open the whole Bay of Clas thing up again, And ah ... because these people are plugging for, for keeps and that they should call the FBI in and say that we wish for the country, don't go any

Walters, who also testined yesterday, said he was told sometime on the morning of June 23 that he and Helms were to meet with Haldeman and Ehrlichman at the White House. He said the meeting was originally set for noon but was then postponed until shortly after 1 p.m.

further into this case, period!"

Haldeman was meeting with the President again when the CIA officials arrived. Accordmg to a tape of that meeting, Mr. Nixon told his chief of staff once again to invoke "the whole, uh, Bay of Pigs thing."

"I don't want them to get any ideas we're doing it hecause our concern is political." Mr. Nixon emphasized.

Walters said the more not took place in Ehrlichman's ortice, out Haldeman did the toffeing, saying that the Wateracte incident was "mikli z a les of solse" and "it might got vocse" in light of Democratic attempts to exploit it.

According to Walters. dals replied than the " this daing to do with the Various te incident and que no risa already told Gray the But Haldeman, the witness said, told the CIA men: "It is the FBI director. In any case, Waiters said he made an anpointment to see Gray at 2:30 that same afternoon.

Haldeman, meanwhile, report distack to the Freside of at 1919 m

"Well it's no problem," the

White House aide assured Mr. Nixon, "Had the . . . two of thom in ... I just said that ... we're Jonna create some very major potential problems becrosse they were exploring leads that led back, no. 50, uh, areas (where) it will be harmful to the CIA, harmfu' to the government . . . Helms kind of got the picture."

Mr. Nixon suggested that the money might still pose a problem, but told Haldeman "we'll cross that bridge" later, "... What the hell," the President observed at one point. "Who knows, maybe Dantherg contributed to the CLA...

By now, Walters was in! Gray's office at the FBI. The! CIA official said he told Gray he "had just come from the White House" with instructions to inform him what further pursuit of the FBI ma vestigation could expose or: touch upon CIA cover operations" in Mexico.

Walters said he also ob-; served that five men had already been arrested at the Waterlate and "it would be hest if the investigation were tagened out there."

The CIA deputy director said John Dean later called him at Fhrliehman's statestion and in conversations on June 27 and June 28 made a pitch for CIA funds to pay for the burglars' bail and living expenses. Walters sald low. er or that he had the had been the White Hease claims by then and found the Civ bod not been involved in any way in the Watergate incident.

"He (Dean) said some or the